DECLASSIFIED
AV 4 IT-US
PP B 9 IT

Department of State

TELEGRAM

UNCLASSIFIED 672

PAGE 01 ROME 02862 281942Z

84
ACTION E-15

INFO OCT-01 EUR-20 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COM-08 DODE-00 DOT-12
INR-07 NSAE-00 RSC-01 P-03 PRS-01 USIA-12 L-04 SS-20
NSC-10 H-02 RSR-01 /126 W

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/IDC/MR
REVIEWED BY 04428 DATE 25 MAY 1982
RDS☐or XDS☐EXT. DATE
TS AUTH. REASON(S)
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐
DECLASSIFIED☐ RELEASABLE☐
RELEASE DENIED☐
PA/OIS FOI EXEMPTIONS

R 281756Z MAY 70
FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5101

UNCLAS ROME 2862

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: ITALIAN PRESS COVERAGE OF AIR AGREEMENT

1. MOST ITALIAN PAPERS PRINTED TEXT OF AGREED PRESS STATEMENT WITHOUT COMMENT. EXCEPTIONS WERE /IL TEMPO/ (D.D.), /LA STAMPA/ OF TURIN (INDEPENDENT) AND /IL MESSAGGERO/ (INDEPENDENT). COVERAGE CONFINED TO MAY 23 AND 24. NO ADDITIONAL COVERAGE HAS BEEN NOTED.

2. /LA STAMPA/ MAY 23 HEADED ARTICLE "NEW LANDING RIGHTS FOR ALITALIA IN AMERICA" AND SAID NEW RIGHTS MADE POSSIBLE BY AGREEMENT REACHED PRECEDING EVENING BY SANTINI AND MEADOWS, AND THAT SIGNING OF AGREEMENT SCHEDULED TAKE PLACE IN NEAR FUTURE THEREBY CONCLUDING NEGOTIATIONS WHICH HAD STRETCHED OVER THREE YEARS. ARTICLE RECITES HISTORY OF DENUNCIATION OLD AGREEMENT AND NOTES NUMEROUS PAST MEETINGS INCLUDING THREE FORMAL SESSIONS HAD PREVIOUSLY FAILED PRIOR TO RECENT DECISIVE SERIES OF TALKS. "FROM NOW ON", PAPER CONTINUES, "ALITALIA CAN ALMOST CERTAINLY LAND AT WASHINGTON, DETROIT AND LOS ANGELES AS WELL AS CHICAGO, BOSTON AND NEW YORK, THUS REACHING THE MAJOR CENTERS OF NORTH-EAST, CENTRAL AND SOUTH-WESTERN UNITED STATES. THIS IS A NETWORK WHICH ALITALIA BELIEVES TO BE SATISFACTORY FOR EXPANDING BOTH ITS PASSENGER TRAFFIC AND EVEN MORE ITS FREIGHT TRAFFIC." PAPER SAYS NEW AGREEMENT, ACCORDING TO EXPERTS, WILL PERMIT MAJOR DEVELOPMENT OF TRAFFIC BETWEEN U.S. AND ITALY.

3. /IL TEMPO/ (D.C.) REPORTS PRESS STATEMENT AND ADDS FOLLOWING

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

Department of State **TELEGRAM**

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 ROME 02862 281942Z

COMMENTS: "FROM THE CONTENTS OF THE OFFICIAL COMMUNIQUE AS WELL AS FROM CERTAIN INDISCRETIONS COLLECTED DURING THE LAST PHASE OF THE NEGOTIATIONS, IT SEEMS CERTAIN THAT THE AGREEMENT WILL BE SATISFACTORY FOR BOTH PARTIES. IN PARTICULAR, IT IS BEING TAKEN FOR GRANTED THAT WHERE THE COMMUNIQUE SPEAKS OF ROUTE TABLES IT IS ALLUDING TO THE FACT THAT ALITALIA HAS FINALLY BEEN GRANTED THE RIGHT TO PROCEED BEYOND ITS CURRENT TERMINALS TO THE PACIFIC COAST AND OTHER U.S. CITIES INCLUDING THE AMERICAN CAPITAL. FROM INTERPRETATIONS OF OTHER PARTS OF THE COMMUNIQUE IT SEEMS POSSIBLE TO ASSUME THAT THE AMERICAN COMPANIES WERE GRANTED RIGHTS BEYOND ROME ON SOME NEW ROUTES WHILE ALITALIA WAS ASSURED OF THE POSSIBILITY OF FLYING AROUND THE WORLD VIA THE PACIFIC.

"PROBABLY, EVEN MORE THAN THESE NOT UNIMPORTANT PARTICULARS, SIGNIFICANCE OF AGREEMENT LIES IN FACT THAT WHOLE "PACKAGE" BASED ON PRINCIPLE THAT BOTH SIDES AGREE ON FULL LIBERTY FOR DEVELOPMENT OF AIR TRAFFIC SUBJECT ONLY TO FACT THAT FROM TIME TO TIME AS THIS LIBERTY IS TRANSLATED INTO SPECIFIC RIGHTS BOTH SIDES WILL PROCEED TO REGULARIZE THE DETAILS INVOLVED. MANY LONG PENDING PROBLEMS SHOULD THUS BE RESOLVED AND THE BASIS LAID FOR AN EASY SOLUTION OF FUTURE QUESTIONS. THE AIR TRAFFIC AGREEMENT BETWEEN ITALY AND THE UNITED STATES HAD COMPRISED THE ONLY FORMAL CONTROVERSY IN EXISTENCE IN THE RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES, THE PRECEDING AGREEMENT DENOUNCED IN 1966 WAS SIGNED IN THE IMMEDIATE POST WAR PERIOD AND CONTAINED EXTREMELY UNFAVORABLE ASPECTS FOR ITALY.

"ONE OF THE FIRST CONSEQUENCES OF THE ACCORD REACHED BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES WILL BE DECIDEDLY TO THE ADVANTAGE OF THE AMERICANS WHO WILL RECEIVE VERY SOON WITH ALMOST COMPLETE CERTAINTY AN ORDER FROM ALITALIA FOR ADDITIONAL BOING 747S AS WE WERE TOLD A FEW DAYS AGO BY ALITALIA PRESIDENT BRUNO VELANI IN SEATTLE ON THE OCCASION OF ACCEPTING THE FIRST ALITALIA JUMBO JET. ON THE SAME OCCASION, VELANI SAID THAT THE ITALIAN COMPANY IS NOT INTERESTED IN THE ANGLO-FRENCH SUPERSONIC CONCORDE BECAUSE OF ITS LIMITED RANGE, THAT HE CONSIDERS MORE SUITABLE FOR ALITALIA'S NEEDS THE PROJECTED U.S. SUPERSONIC AND THAT ALITALIA'S CHOICE OF A LARGE CAPACITY, MEDIUM RANGE JET OF WHICH ABOUT 20 WILL BE ORDERED WILL NOT BE MADE BEFORE

DECLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

Department of State **TELEGRAM**

THE END OF THIS YEAR."

4. /IL MESSAGGERO/ (INDEPENDENT) ARTICLE BUILT AROUND THEME OF DIVERSE OBJECTIVES. US ALLEGEDLY SOUGHT TO RESTRICT DISCUSSIONS TO ITS OBJECTIVE OF OBTAINING UNLIMITED RIGHTS FOR ITS B-747 WHEREAS ITALIAN SIDE INSISTED ON A COMPLETE REVISION OF THE OLD AGREEMENT. THE ARTICLE INDICATES BOTH SIDES ACHIEVED PRINCIPAL OBJECTIVES AND THAT ITALY WILL NOW BE ABLE TO PENETRATE U.S. AS FAR AS PACIFIC WITH THE POSSIBILITY OF LATER STARTING NEW "RELATIONS" WITH COUNTRIES OF LATIN AMERICA.
MARTIN

0314 2807 90